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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

ADQUALAERS, 1ST BATTALION 40TH ARTILLERY

AFPO San Francisco 95259

10 Aug 68

AD 394061

AVGLA-C

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 Jul 68.
(RCS CSFOR-5 (RM)) (U)

18 OACSFOR

See Distribution

Section 1. (C) Significant Unit Activities (U)

1. (C) General.

19 OT-RD-683071

a. The battalion remains assigned to 108th Artillery Group with the mission: General Support, Reinforcing the fires of 12th Marine Regiment, on order Direct Support of designated United States Army, United States Marine Corps, and Army of the Republic of Viet Nam (ARVN) elements. At the beginning of the reporting period the firing batteries were positioned at TRUC SON (YD215573), THON SON LAM (XD082542), and QUANG TRI (XD312544). During the first half of the reporting period, one battery occupied various positions in the QUANG TRI - WUNDER BEACH area, then moved to DONG HA COMBAT BASE (YD218598). During the period the battalion operated in support of the 1st, 3rd, 4th, 9th and 26th Marine Regiments, 2nd Recon Battalion of the 3rd Marine Division, 3rd Force Recon Company, 3rd Squadron, 5th Cavalry (9th U.S. Infantry Division), 2nd ARVN Regiment, elements of 1st and 101st Cavalry Divisions (Airmobile), 196th Light Infantry Brigade and elements of 5th Special Forces Group.

b. During the early part of May, very large elements of North Vietnamese Army troops tried to infiltrate South through the DMZ between A-1 (YD259733) and A-2 (YD215744). Activity has generally decreased since that time. Most activity appears to be conducted by NVA regulars with some assistance from Viet Cong elements. Nearly all significant contacts by maneuver elements and significant artillery missions involved well uniformed, armed and equipped enemy troops. All battery positions received enemy rocket and artillery fire. US Army, US Marine and ARVN forces have conducted joint and combined operations of up to multi-regiment size and ARVN forces have, by their aggressiveness and skill, assumed a far greater roll in the fighting along the DMZ. Forward observers and liaison officers from the battalion have accompanied infantry and Cavalry units during these operations, with ARVN units receiving the bulk of this support.

c. Particular attention has been paid to the improvement of the physical facilities in the battalion's perimeter sector at DONG HA COMBAT BASE. With the continuing trend for firing batteries to remain in

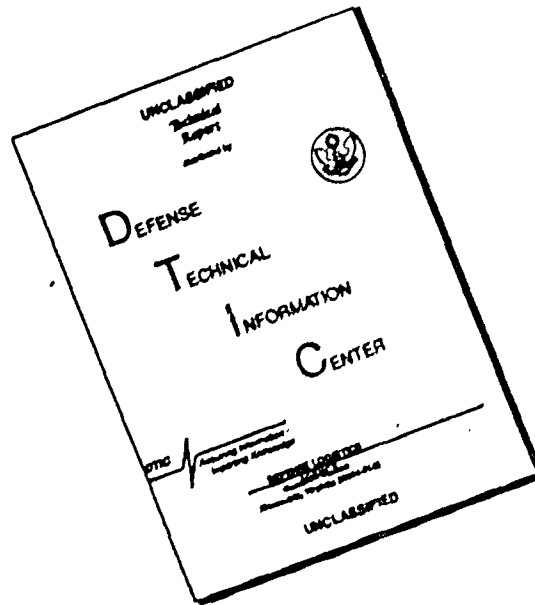
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forward fire bases for extended periods, much emphasis has been placed on improvement of every facet of the fire bases.

d. Staff visits and frequent informal inspections by the Battalion Commander continue to insure a high state of unit readiness and adherence to overall doctrinal guidance provided by Department of the Army Field and Technical Manuals, with particular emphasis on gunnery techniques as outlined in FM 6-40.

e. Due to the inaccuracy of maps and the lack of surveyed registration points, the battalion continues to use the high burst method of registration exclusively. This technique is used in conjunction with the AN/MPQ-4A Counter Mortar Radar where satisfactory observation posts are not available or when survey parties are otherwise occupied. Registrations are conducted concurrently with metrological flights. Metro messages are received three times each day and are used for computation of current Met plus VE GFT settings. To check the accuracy of these settings, the counter mortar radar is used to spot rounds fired during the H&I programs.

2. (C) Operations and Training Activities.

a. Plans. Current plans for the battalion are:

(1) To provide artillery support in defense of allied installations along the DMZ.

(2) To be prepared to move firing batteries to any location in PCV area.

(3) To maintain one firing battery at TRUC SON to support allied operations in and below the eastern end of the DMZ.

(4) To conduct training as outlined by United States Army Vietnam (USARV) training directives, with sufficient section training to insure that all units and individuals are capable of performing their missions.

(5) To maintain administrative control over 235th, 238th, 239th, 240th, 245th, and 250th Field Artillery Detachments (Counter Mortar Radar) which provide counter mortar surveillance for the 12th Marine Regiment at DONG HA COMBAT BASE and the GIO LINH Outpost (YD213743); 3rd Bn, 12th Marines at fire support base GATES (XD933453), 2nd Battalion 12th Marines at X. TOT BONG (YD134646), 3rd Battalion 12th Marines at QUANG TRI, and 1st Bn 12th Marines at CAMP J.J. CARROLL (YD065555).

(6) To conduct limited scale civil affairs operations in the villages around the DONG HA COMBAT BASE with increased emphasis on coordination of civil affairs with the local (2d ARVN Regiment) host nation military commander.

b. Operations.

(1) The battalion has continued to provide Direct, Reinforcing

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and General artillery support while participating in operations Scotland, Lancaster III, Kentucky II, Napoleon-Saline II, California, Highrise and a number of ARVN operations.

(2) Battalion Headquarters, Headquarters Battery, and Service Battery have remained in base camp at DONG HA COMBAT BASE.

(3) Battery A began the reporting period with a platoon at DONG HA COMBAT BASE with the mission of General Support, Reinforcing the fires of 12th Marine Regiment. The remainder of the battery was at QUANG TRI, Reinforcing the fires of 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines. On 5 May 1968, the battery (-) moved to LZ JANE (XD930429), and had the mission of Direct Support of 3rd Squadron, 5th Cavalry. On 17 May, still in Direct Support of 3rd Squadron, 5th Cavalry, they moved to AP VINH AN (YD498455). On 4 June, retaining the same mission, they moved to LZ HARDCORE (XD447510) followed by a move to WUNDER BEACH (YD497553) on 6 June, still in Direct Support of 3rd Squadron, 5th Cavalry. On 7 June the battery closed at DONG HA COMBAT BASE and was given the mission of General Support, Reinforcing 12th Marine Regiment. On 11 July the battery displaced to THON SON LAM and was given the mission of Reinforcing the fires of 1st Battalion 12th Marines. When the battery left THON SON LAM for LZ JANE to Reinforce the fires of the 101st Cavalry Division Artillery (Aimobile) on 30 July, it marked the first time since June 1967 that the battalion did not have a battery at THON SON LAM.

(4) Battery B began the reporting period at THON SON LAM with the mission of Reinforcing the fires of 1st Battalion 12th Marines. The battery remained there until 11 July, Reinforcing, at various times, the 1st, 2nd, and 3d Battalions of the 12th Marines. On 11 July the battery returned to DONG HA COMBAT BASE and took up the mission of General Support Reinforcing 12th Marine Regiment.

(5) Battery C spent the entire reporting period at TRUC SON. Its mission until 15 June was Direct Support of 2nd ARVN Regiment. On 15 June their mission became General Support Reinforcing 12th Marine Regiment with priority of fires to 62nd ARVN Artillery.

(6) The battalion has fired at every conceivable type of target. During the reporting period an unusually large number of very lucrative targets presented themselves, especially during the month of May. Battery C at TRUC SON continued to have the best targets, and the best surveillance. It fired nearly 3000 rounds of selected munitions during the period. During the month of May alone, the battery received credit for 666 confirmed enemy KIA. The battery at DONG HA COMBAT BASE was also able to fire against some of the same targets.

(7) The Counter Mortar Radar detachments which are attached to the battalion have remained in the same positions they occupied at the close of the last reporting period with the exception of the 240th Detachment. The 240th was airlifted from KIE SANH (XD843419) to LZ STUD (XD995434) on 30 June, moved to THON SON LAM on 11 July, and airlifted to FIRE SUPPORT BASE GAMES on 27 July.

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(3) The battalion had been credited with 2120 confirmed enemy KIA by the close of the period, having killed nearly as many enemy in this reporting period as it had in its first eighteen months in RVN. The battalion has fired 533,173 rounds from 27 October 1966 to the end of the reporting period.

c. Training.

(1) Training is conducted every day, using on-the-job training as the primary vehicle.

(2) Familiarization firing of all types of individual and crew served weapons continues to be scheduled monthly.

(3) All incoming personnel receive a proscribed 16 hour block of RVN and unit orientation training plus familiarization firing on small arms. Refresher training is given periodically, especially on subjects such as perimeter defense procedures, warning signals and individual protection.

d. Chemical. Scattered incidents of enemy use of riot control agents necessitates that operational protective gear be kept immediately available. The M17 protective mask is the only item of CBR equipment authorized in the battalion. Frequent inspection of masks and instruction of personnel insure readiness to operate successfully in CBR environment.

e. Forward Observers.

(1) The battalion's forward observer and liaison teams have been particularly busy during this reporting period. The battalion habitually maintains its two organic liaison teams at the 2nd ARVN Regiment FSCC and the 12th Marine Regiment FDC. Also the battalion maintains a forward observer team permanently at the outpost position at A-1. The observer at A-1 was credited with over 500 enemy KIA during May. The battalion also has an FO team with Special Forces elements near MAI DAM (YD089500).

(2) The battalion's remaining forward observer teams are employed continuously as either liaison or forward observer teams as the need arises, usually with units supported by this battalion but much too often with units not supported by this battalion. Our observers normally accompany each battalion of the 2d ARVN Regiment during operations. They are also employed with US Army and USMC maneuver units, both infantry and cavalry.

f. Advisory Assistance.

(1) Since the arrival of the 62nd ARVN Artillery Battalion as the Direct Support artillery for 2nd ARVN Regiment on 15 June 1968, the battalion has been able to assist the 62nd Battalion in an advisory capacity. The ground work for this report, which is so important to a good

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advisory relationship, was laid by the close relationship established between the battalion and 2nd ARVN Regiment. The ARVN Battalion FDC and two firing batteries are located at TRUC SON with Battery C, 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery.

(2) The battalion has assisted the ARVN artillery by providing survey of battery centers and a registration point, technical assistance and instruction on high-burst registration, conducted by AN/MPQ-4A radar, instructions on utilization of registration corrections and metrological information to keep firing data current, metro message to ARVN's at each broadcast, a set of wind cards and instructions on their use, orientation tours through the C Battery FDC to ARVN artillery officers, instruction on utilization and handling of "Beehive ammunition" and instruction on preparation and handling of CVT fuzes. C Battery, 1st Battalion 40th Artillery continues to assist the artillery advisors by providing materials, a good example and instruction to the ARVN artillery.

4. (C) LOGISTICS. During the reporting period the battalion has consolidated all of its logistics activities and personnel under the Battalion S-4. As a result the battalion logistics operation has been functionally reorganized. Utilizing supply sergeants and supply clerks from the batteries, the following functional sections have been formed: PLL, TA50-901 (central issue), Self Service Supply Center, records, weapons pool and a supply liaison section which operates in DA MANG to insure prompt shipment of supplies, prompt handling of requisitions and on the spot follow-up on problem areas. This consolidation has resulted in better service to the battalion's subordinate units and to individuals. The quicker response to the battalion's requirements has improved supply discipline and economy by eliminating much of the motivation for hoarding. Consolidation has enabled the firing batteries to travel and live "light" in their forward fire bases and has removed a portion of the administrative burden on battery commanders.

5. (U) MEDICAL.

a. The battalion surgeon and his aidmen, in conjunction with the S-5 continue to conduct weekly Medical Civic Action Project (MEDCAP) visits to DON+ DA Hamlet. The visits are becoming more and more successful. During each of the last two visits nearly 300 Vietnamese were treated.

b. The battalion surgeon has begun to train a Vietnamese civilian as a village aidman to facilitate the more efficient handling of patients during MEDCAP.

6. (C) PERSONNEL.

a. The battalion suffered one killed and two wounded during the reporting period due to hostile action.

b. The battalion suffered eight casualties not due to hostile action; one man was killed and two were wounded as a result of an ammunition malfunction which caused a projectile to explode in the tube of a howitzer,

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three were wounded as a result of a fire and explosion in an adjacent 175mm gun battery position, two were killed as a result of a fire and explosion in a living bunker.

7. (U) ARTILLERY. The battalion is still equipped with the M108 Self-Propelled 105mm Howitzer. The M577A1 Command Post vehicle is available for the FDC of each firing battery and two are authorized for the Operations/FDC/Intelligence computer at the battalion headquarters. The battalion FDC and each battery FDC are equipped with one Gun Direction Computer M18 (FADAC) and two generators for the computer. The armor protection afforded by the M108 and M577A1 continues to be of great value in this area where enemy artillery, rocket and mortar attacks are frequent. The rapid traverse and high rate of fire of the howitzer continue to be invaluable in close-in emergency defense of surrounded friendly forces.

8. (U) OTHERS.

a. The battalion underwent its Annual General Inspection, administered by USARV, 9 thru 12 July 1968. The inspectors visited the base camp, forward fire bases and radar sites. The battalion received an overall rating of satisfactory.

b. During the reporting period (92 days) the battalion trained on 92 days, conducted tactical combat operations on 92 days and displaced on 11 days.

Section 2. (C) Commander's Observations and Recommendations.

Part I. Observations (Lessons Learned)

1. (U) PERSONNEL.

a. Item: Accountability for extended medical treatment personnel.

DISCUSSION. Due to difficulty in accounting for personnel receiving extended medical treatment, all personnel departing the battalion for medical or dental treatment or medical consultation are required to sign out in the Personnel Register prior to departure and must sign in upon return. The medical section submits a written or telephonic report to the personnel section and the individual's parent unit at a proscribed hour every day. This report contains Name, Rank, and Service Number of those individuals absent from duty for medical reasons.

OBSERVATION. This system has improved accountability and has reduced the number of delayed and omitted Morning Report entries.

b. Item: Liaison or forward observer team medical evacuees.

DISCUSSION. Members of this unit supporting other units in different geographical areas, who have been wounded or killed in action, have been medically evacuated without immediate notification of this unit resulting in loss of time locating the individual and determining

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injury sustained, delayed and inaccurate casualty reports, slow notification of loss of life and collection and inventory of property.

OBSERVATION. Supported units should notify parent unit of wounded and/or deceased personnel immediately.

c. Item: Late distribution of Port Calls.

DISCUSSION. Port Calls for July were received on 30 June and for August they were received on 28 July. This imposes a hardship on the individuals scheduled to rotate on the first few days of the following month. It also creates an additional workload on the personnel section as orders must be published, clearance papers processed, and records screened. In many cases, one to three days is not adequate for positive and complete processing for departing individuals.

OBSERVATION. Port Calls are not arriving at the unit in time to allow proper processing of departing personnel.

d. Item: Apprehension of AWOL and deserter personnel.

DISCUSSION. In two cases this unit was not notified that persons being carried in AWOL status had been apprehended by military authorities and were in confinement in DA NANG and NHA TRANG. In addition, these individuals were not reported on any Morning Report and orders were not published attaching or assigning them to the apprehending unit.

OBSERVATION. Military Police in DA NANG and NHA TRANG are not adhering to the system set forth in AR 630-10 or USARV Regulation 630-10 for handling, accountability of, and notification regarding apprehended personnel.

2. (C) OPERATIONS

a. Item: Data for shell illumination when both FADAC and manual computation systems are available.

DISCUSSION. An excessive amount of time is required and incorrect data is displayed if the FADAC is used to compute data for shell illumination when the projectile is required to function on the upward path of the trajectory, i.e., self illumination or short range illumination missions. In this case the FADAC will provide two different solutions to the problem.

OBSERVATION. Computation of firing data for shell illumination should only be accomplished manually even though the FADAC is available.

b. Item: Arrangement and utilization of FM radio equipment within FDC installations.

DISCUSSION. When operating in permanent or semi permanent FDC installations where it is necessary to extend communications into a bunker, this battalion has found it advantageous to mount the radios inside

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the FDC and power them with a 20 volt generator through a pair of series connected 12 volt batteries. Fully charged batteries provide two to five hours of power depending on the number of transmissions. The batteries also prevent power surges from the generator to the radio sets as in a vehicle. The same precaution should be taken as with vehicular mounted radios, i.e., turn off the radios when starting the generator. By using the above system instead of removing radios into the FDC the following advantages are realized: vehicles are released for other use and do not suffer from continued running at idle speeds and changing frequencies is more convenient.

OBSERVATION. Mounting radios inside the FDC permits greater ease of operation than removing when occupying a permanent or semi permanent position.

c. Item: Support maintenance and technical assistance for Gun Direction Computer K-13 (FADAC).

DISCUSSION. During this reporting period two out of the four computers which the battalion is authorized have been non-operational 75% of the time due to the non-availability of repair parts at support maintenance.

OBSERVATION. If continued use is to be made of the FADAC, sufficient maintenance and technical support must be provided.

3. (U) TRAINING AND ORGANIZATION, None

4. (U) INTELLIGENCE, None.

5. (C) LOGISTICS.

a. Item: Combat loss of Howitzer M108 (SP).

DISCUSSION. This unit turned-in an M108 Howitzer as a combat loss on 11 May 1968, and a requisition was placed on that same day. It was determined by follow up action that a howitzer M108 (SP) was received at NSA, Bridge Ramp, DI NANG, RVN on TCM #ATS152814800XXX on 22 June 1968, but as of this date, the howitzer can not be located and there is no record of the howitzer having been issued.

OBSERVATION. This unit is short one M108 (SP) Howitzer.

b. Item: Non-availability of Bore Evacuator Valve Assembly, FSN 1015-345-8087.

DISCUSSION. Since 27 April 1968, 72 bore evacuator valve assemblies have been requisitioned without results. Requisition numbers are as follows: 8118-312 18ea, 8134-322 6ea, 8134-324 18ea, 8142-220 3ea, 8152-107 3ea, 8152-108 3ea, 8152-309 9ea, 8157-362 3ea, 8180-317 3ea, and 8180-318 6ea. All requisitions are still valid. Each howitzer tube requires three valve assemblies, and as of the date of this report, there are eight valve assemblies in the battalion.

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OBSERVATION. Proper functioning of the bore evacuator is necessary to prevent powder gases from passing into the personnel compartment during firing.

c. Item: Unsatisfactory item of equipment - Bore Evacuator Valve Assembly, FSN 1015-345-2087.

DISCUSSION. The battalion has experienced a high failure rate with the above valve assemblies. The normal assembly life is one month to one and one-half months. Ten percent of the failures were due to the moving parts in the assembly. The other ninety percent of failures were attributable to stripping of the threads where the assembly screws into the evacuator port of the howitzer tube or breaking off of the entire threaded portion of the assembly. The above deficiencies indicate an inadequacy in either the design of the valve assembly or the materials used in its construction. A separate Unsatisfactory Equipment Report is being submitted.

OBSERVATION. The bore evacuator valve assembly is inadequate in design or construction.

d. Item: Excessive non-operational time of the power unit for the Gun Direction Computer M-13 (FADAC).

DISCUSSION. This battalion is authorized eight FADAC generators (Generator Set 3KW, 400cy, 120/240V, AC, Skid Mounted, Model HF3-0-MD), and all have been evacuated to support maintenance resulting in the battalion not being able to utilize its FADACs. The first was turned in on 8177 and the last on 8220. One generator was lost at Support Maintenance, 63rd Maintenance Battalion, QUANG TRI, RVN, and two have been classified as economically unrepairable. The other five are non-operational for engine and/or generator parts. 63rd Maintenance Battalion is not, at this time, able to forecast the arrival of necessary repair parts. Operational hours on each of the FADACs at turn in date were as follows: 138 hours on 8177, 474 hours on 8157, 753 hours on 8192, 1534 hours on 8207, and 1302 hours on 8220.

OBSERVATION. Repair parts supply and maintenance support for the 3KW, 400 cycle generator are completely unsatisfactory. The failure rate and non-operational time are not acceptable.

e. Item: Non-availability of generator parts for Generator Set, PU 107 A/U, the authorized power supply for the AN/MFQ4-A Counter Mortar Radar.

DISCUSSION. The Generator Set, PU 107 A/U, when subjected to continuous operational time of approximately 22 to 23 hours a day, will only last for one and one-half to two months. Due to non-availability of repair parts for these generators, the radar sets have experienced approximately 50% non-operational time.

OBSERVATION. The Generator Set, PU 107 A/U, can not be maintained as repair parts are not available.

6. (U) COMMUNICATIONS.

Item: Improvement of FM communications.

DISCUSSION. This unit has experienced difficulty communicating with distant firing batteries via FM radio. Because of terrain limitations or other unknown reasons the approved directional antennae did not improve the communication problem.

OBSERVATION. By adding two extra A3-21/GR sections to one ground plane of the antenna RC202 and then orienting the long ground plane in the direction of the distant station, more reliable communications were attained. It is necessary for both stations to take the above action to achieve desired results. This action enabled the unit to establish FM radio communications with distant batteries on a regular basis when prior to the modification, communications had only been marginal.

7. (U) MEDICAL.

Item: Education of incoming personnel regarding malaria prevention.

DISCUSSION. Command emphasis and close medical supervision of taking anti-malaria pills by supervised roster system has contributed to a remarkably low malaria rate in this battalion. In more than 21 months since arrival in Vietnam, with batteries often in high incidence areas, this battalion has had only four confirmed cases of malaria. Of the four cases, three individuals admitted that they had missed taking the pills as directed by regulation.

OBSERVATION. The importance of a properly supervised anti-malaria program can not be over emphasized.

Part III. Recommendations

1. (U) PERSONNEL. It is recommended that:

a. Port Calls should arrive at the unit no later than the 20th of the preceeding month.

b. Military Police follow guidelines outlined in USARV Regulation 630-10 and AR 630-10.

2. (U) OPERATIONS. It is recommended that:

a. A study be performed of the FADAC computations of shell illumination and guidance published for distribution to all user units. Until guidance is published all units should use the manual computation for shell illumination.

b. Contact teams visit all user units at a minimum of once per quarter, more often if required, to trouble shoot the FADAC and update operator training.

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3. (U) TRAINING AND ORGANIZATION. None.
4. (U) INTELLIGENCE. None.
5. (C) LOGISTICS. It is recommended that:
 - a. A Kowitz 1100 (SP) be issued to this unit as soon as possible.
 - b. The Core Evacuator Valve Assembly, FSN 1015-345-8087 be examined for inadequate design or construction.
 - c. The Core Evacuator Valve Assembly, FSN 1015-345-8087 be made available to this unit as soon as possible.
6. (U) COMMUNICATIONS. It is recommended that the addition of two AB 21/GR sections to one ground plane of the RC292 for utilization as a semi-directional antennae be researched and results disseminated.

Lawrence H. D. Williams
LAWRENCE H. D. WILLIAMS
Lieutenant Colonel, Artillery
Commanding

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Form (10 Aug 68) 1st Ind

1. Operational report for quarterly period ending 31 July 1968
(1.2.1.1-65, (1)(2))

2. 1st Ind, 10th Artillery Group, 1st AF, 10th AF, San Francisco
9169, 12 August 1968

3. Commanding General, 1st Division, 10th Artillery, 1st AF, 10th AF, San Francisco 9169

Consent in the comments and recommendations made in Section 2.

John W. Jones
Colonel, Artillery
Commanding

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AVII-ATC (10 Aug 68) 2nd Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery For the Period Ending 31 July 1968, RFS 3870R-65 (R1)(1)

TO: USAF, AFMARS, XXIV Corps Artillery, ATTN: AVII-ATC, APO 96308

TO: Commanding General, XXIV Corps, ATTN: CII-GCT, APO 96308

1. (U) The Operational Report-Lessons Learned of the 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery for the period ending 31 July 1968, is forwarded in compliance with XXIV Corps Regulation 525-2.

2. (C) The following items are particularly noteworthy in this report:

a. The battalion has been credited with 2120 confirmed enemy KIA at the close of the reporting period. Battery C continues to achieve a significantly large number of enemy KIA, having been credited with 666 during the month of May alone.

b. The advisory assistance provided 62d ARVN Arty Battalion has been outstanding.

3. (C) Comments on the Commander's recommendations are as follows:

a. Reference item concerning combat loss of howitzer M108 (SP), page 8, paragraph 5a. Concur. S-4, XXIV Corps Artillery has discussed location of this weapon with 1st Log Command and USARV. USARV is attempting to locate the weapon at the present time.

b. Reference item concerning non-availability of bore evacuator valve assembly, FSN 1015-345-8078, page 8, paragraph 5b. Concur. An itemized list of requisitions submitted for this item was hand carried to Da Nang Support Command by a representative of the XXIV Corps Arty S-4 office to assist in follow-up action.

c. Reference items concerning excessive non-operational time of power units for Gun Direction Computer M-18 (FADAC), page 9, paragraph 5d, and item concerning non-availability of parts for Generator Set, FU 107 A/U, power source for AM/FP-4A Counter Mortar Radar, page 9, paragraph 5e. Concur. Director of Supply, USASUPCOM, Da Nang is working with 1st Log Command, Long Binh, to set up a DX system for generators in IOTZ. The DX system will include generator sets 10kw and smaller. This program will be initiated as soon as sufficient assets are available.

Frank W. Burfo
FRANK W. BURFO
COL, Arty
Acting Commander

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AVII-GCT (10 Aug 68) 3d Ind

MAJ Sanderson/rjd/2506

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery for the
Period Ending 31 July 1968, RCS CS FOR-65 (R1) (U)

DA, HQ, XXIV CORPS, APO 96308 19 September 1968

TO: Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, APO 96375

1. (U) The ORLL for 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery has been reviewed at
HQ, XXIV Corps and is forwarded in accordance with USARV Reg 525-15.

2. (C) Comments follow:

a. Item: Liaison or forward observer team medical evacuees, page 6,
para 1b. This is considered to be a local problem generated by lack of
liaison between units concerned. HQ, XXIV Corps Artillery has taken ap-
propriate action to resolve the problem.

b. Item: Late distribution of port calls, page 7, para 1c and page
10, para 1a. Concur. The problem is a result of the time required to
deliver port call lists from the replacement station to the units, in some
instances 10 to 15 days. The 108th Arty Group, parent organization of 1st
Bn, 40th Arty, has established a courier to pick up the port call lists as
soon as they are available at the replacement station and deliver them to
the unit.

c. Item: Apprehension of AWOL and deserter personnel, page 7, para
1d and page 10, para 1b. Concur. Coordination has been made by the Corps
Provost Marshal with area provost marshals to ensure that pertinent regulations
are observed which should serve to preclude future repetitions of this problem.

d. Item: Arrangement and utilization of FM radio equipment within
FDC installations, page 7, para 2b. This procedure is normal practice in
permanent and semi-permanent positions throughout Vietnam. The use of
batteries between a 28-volt generator and the radio provides protection
from power peaks, and provides a reliable power source for the radio when
the generator is off for maintenance.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Cy Furn:
CG, XXIV Corps Arty
CO, 108th Arty Gp
CO, 1/40th Arty

2R Taylor
H. R. TAYLOR
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AVHGC-DST (10 Aug 68) 4th Ind (U)

MAJ Klingman/hga/IBN 4433

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968
(RCS CSFOR-65) (R1) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 10 OCT 1968

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1968 from Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery.

2. Comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning support maintenance and technical assistance for Gun Direction Computer M-18 (FADAC), page 8, paragraph 2c: Concur. The FADAC will be added to the command deadline report and its maintenance status will be closely monitored. One reason for the high deadline rate has been a shortage of memory discs, FSN 1200-861-3842. However, this problem will be alleviated by the recent inclusion of memory discs in the Closed Loop System. In addition, technical assistance in FADAC maintenance problem areas is being provided by WECOM representatives in Vietnam.

b. Reference item concerning combat loss of howitzer, M108 (SP), page 8, paragraph 5a; and 2d Indorsement, paragraph 3a: Concur. This item has been in short supply, but relief is expected in early November when the unit is scheduled to receive five replacement weapons from CONUS as part of a program to replace all M108 (SP) howitzers on hand with rebuilt weapons. The referenced missing howitzer was a turn in from the Australian forces which was erroneously placed into retrograde channels.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

W.C. Arntz
W. C. ARNTZ
C1 TAGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
HQ 1/40 Arty
HQ XXIV Corps

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GPOP-DT (10 Aug 68) 5th Ind (U)

26 OCT

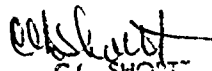
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 1st Bn, 40th Arty for Period Ending
31 July 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorse-
ments and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:


C. SHORT
CPT, / C
Asst AG

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